

## Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 148162

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, US, EG, IS

SUBJECT:SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH GENERAL GAMASY

1. AFTER EXTENSIVE TALKS WITH HAROLD BROWN AND DOD  
OFFICIALS JUNE 7 AND 8, EGYPTIAN WAR MINISTER GAMASY  
MET JUNE 9 WITH DR. BRZEZINSKI AND PAID A BRIEF CALL  
ON PRESIDENT CARTER PRIOR TO HIS MEETING WITH SECRETARY  
VANCE. GAMASY WAS ACCOMPANIED BY GHORBAL AND MOHAMED  
SHAKER. THE SAME DAY GAMASY MET WITH UNDER SECRETARY  
BENSON WHO HOSTED THE EGYPTIAN DELEGATION AT LUNC;EON.

2. SECRETARY VANCE'S MEETING WITH GAMASY FOCUSED  
ON THE PEACE PROCESS. GAMASY SHARED WITH THE SECRETARY  
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SOME DETAILS REGARDING THE SADAT-BEGIN TALKS AT  
ISMAILIA AND HIS EXCHANGES WITH ISRAELI MINISTER OF  
DEFENSE WEIZMAN:

-- BEGINNING AT ISMAILIA THE EGYPTIANS REJECTED GOI  
EFFORTS TO SEEK A BILATERAL SETTLEMENT IN THE SINAI  
AND INSISTED GENUINE PEACE COULD ONLY BE ACHIEVED

IF PALESTINIAN PROBLEMS WERE RESOLVED. EGYPTIANS HAD ADHERED TO THIS POSITION THROUGHOUT THEIR TALKS WITH WEIZMAN.

-- EGYPT WAS PREPARED TO SEE ISRAELI TROOP PRESENCE ON WEST BANK DURING TRANSITIONAL REGIME. ISRAELIS HAD PROPOSED MAINTENANCE OF FULL STRENGTH FORCES WHICH GOE SAID WAS UNACCEPTABLE, PROPOSING INSTEAD ISRAELI "POLICE-TYPE" FORCES WITHIN MULTILATERAL FRAMEWORK. QUERIED AS TO WHETHER EGYPT COULD ACCEPT ISRAELI TROOP PRESENCE BEYOND TRANSITIONAL PERIOD, GAMASY SAID DISCUSSIONS WITH ISRAELIS HAD DEALT ONLY WITH TRANSITIONAL PERIOD.

-- ISRAEL, RE WEST BANK AUTHORITY, WANTS A GOI-APPOINTED COUNCIL, INCLUDING ISRAELIS AS MEMBERS AS THE WEST BANK EXECUTIVE; LOCAL GOVERNMENTS COULD BE ELECTED BY THE INHABITANTS. IN GOE'S VIEW THIS WOULD NOT BE "SELF-GOVERNMENT." SECRETARY EXPRESSED VIEW THAT COUNCIL ELECTED BY LOCAL INHABITANTS WOULD BE PREFERABLE ARRANGEMENT.

-- QUERIED AS TO WHETHER EGYPT WAS PREPARED TO SEE THROUGH TO CONCLUSION AGREEMENT ON WEST BANK IN CASE OTHER ARABS REFUSED TO NEGOTIATE, GAMASY SAID EGYPT WOULD "PARTICIPATE" IN NEGOTIATIONS  
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"IF NECESSARY" BUT DID NOT CARRY EGYPTIAN POSITION BEYOND THIS.

-- RE SINAI, GAMASY AND WEIZMAN ARE IN SUBSTANTIAL ACCORD ON MIX OF BUFFER ZONES, LIMITS ON ARMED FORCES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDERS, JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION, EARLY WARNING STATIONS, GUARANTEED FREE NAVIGATION IN TIRAN, POSSIBLY A UN PRESENCE AT SHARM AL-SHEIKH AS BASIS FOR AGREEMENT. ISRAEL IS INTERESTED IN KEEPING ITS SETTLEMENTS IN GAZA AND SINAI AND IN TWO AIRFIELDS IN SINAI; WHILE SUCH IDEAS ARE INADMISSABLE TO EGYPT, GAMASY SUGGESTED THAT NEITHER OF THESE ISSUES WOULD BE A STICKING POINT; BOTH COULD BE RESOLVED.

-- GAMASY AGREED THAT HIS TALKS WITH WEIZMAN HAD BEEN USEFUL AND SAID PERSONAL CHEMISTRY BETWEEN HIM AND WEIZMAN WAS GOOD. HE NOTED THAT SINAI ISSUES ARE MORE TRACTABLE THAN WEST BANK ISSUES BUT CAUTIONED THAT FURTHER PROGRESS RE SINAI DEPENDS ON ISRAELI MOVEMENT ON THE WEST BANK. GAMASY NOTED THAT HE IS KEEPING OPEN HIS COMMUNICATIONS LINK WITH WEIZMANN.

3. IN DISCUSSING NEXT STEPS, THE SECRETARY AND GAMASY AGREED THAT THE NATURE OF THE ISRAELI RESPONSE TO THE

TWO OUTSTANDING U.S. QUESTIONS IS KEY. TO GAMASY'S QUESTION AS TO WHAT HAPPENS IF ISRAELI REPLIES ARE UNSATISFACTORY SECRETARY SAID WE WOULD THEN HAVE TO PLAN ON PROCEEDING ALONG LINES WHICH HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN DISCUSSED WITH SADAT.

4. GAMASY MAINTAINED THAT SOME WAY MUST BE FOUND TO INVOLVE THE PALESTINIANS AND JORDANIANS IN THE TALKS, BUT HAD NO SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS AS TO HOW THIS MIGHT BE ACCOMPLISHED. GAMASY SAID THAT EGYPT COULD CONTEMPLATE COMBINED EGYPTIAN-JORDANIAN-ISRAELI-  
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PALESTINIAN ("LEAVE THE NAME PLO ASIDE") SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS DURING THE FIVE-YEAR TRANSITION PERIOD.

5. THE SECRETARY ALLUDING TO HIS TALKS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER KAMEL IN NEW YORK JUNE 2, NOTED THAT THE DOOR REMAINS OPEN FOR NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT PEACE IS POSSIBLE. IN THAT CONTEXT HE OBSERVED THAT PRESIDENT SADAT'S REFERENCES TO EGYPT'S WAR OPTION IN RECENT SPEECHES WERE "NOT HELPFUL." WHILE AGREEING THAT MEDIA REPORTS OF SADAT'S REMARKS HAD GIVEN THEM THE WRONG EMPHASIS, THE SECRETARY CAUTIONED THAT ANY MENTION OF WAR SHOULD BE AVOIDED AT THIS JUNCTURE. GAMASY CONCURRED AND SAID THAT GOE WOULD TAKE STEPS TO COUNTER THE ERRONEOUS IMPRESSION THE MEDIA HAD GIVEN OUT REGARDING SADAT'S REMARKS (IN A BRIEF PRESS INTERVIEW FOLLOWING LUNCHEON WITH UNDER SECRETARY BENSON, GAMASY REAFFIRMED PRESIDENT SADAT'S DEDICATION TO A PEACEFUL SOLUTION IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND CHIDED THE MEDIA FOR MISINTERPRETING SADAT'S REMARKS.)

6. DETAILED MEMCON WILL BE POUCHED. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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